Maryland Numismatist

Charles I Shilling Found in St. Mary's, Maryland

Photo courtesy of the Washington Post

Summer Whitman Expo has been canceled.

Summer, 2021 Volume 49 – No. 2

The Maryland State Numismatic Association, Inc.

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http://mdstatenumisassn.org

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The Board of Directors of MSNA is composed of the officers, past presidents and club representatives as listed to the right.

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Table of Contents

Officer Listing	2
President's Message	4
Obituary	6
Archaeologists Find 380-Year-Old English Coin	8
Local News	11
Sheqel or Shekel?	12
PAN Show Results	14
What's Your Sign? (Zodiac-themed medals and coins)	16
Membership Renewal and Application	21
Maryland Coin Show Dates	22
Club Member Listing	23
Advertising Rates	23

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President's Message

Consider this. In a typical US presidential election your vote is one of 140,000,000 give or take a few million, and many of us live in states dominated by one party, so one vote may not mean much at all. But in American Numismatic Association elections, your vote constitutes something like one in 24,000, or less, given that not everyone votes. So please read the candidate biographies, talk to people who may know them, and vote. Deadline is midday July 1.

Last year, just before the pandemic hit, I conducted a couple Boy Scout Merit Badge sessions for Coin Collecting. I've done quite a few of these, and I usually talk briefly about the concept of acquiring bullion. Understanding bullion is not one of the ten requirements for the badge, but it seems that metal value should be understood. And after all, collecting Silver Eagles is both coin collecting and bullion acquisition. Most of a session is about organizing and grading coins and notes and other basics.

At that time, metals prices had risen slightly, probably because the early infections on cruise ships were attracting a small amount of media attention. I told them that numismatics is a wonderful way to learn about history, design., minting and printing processes, and organizing , but it will not make one rich based on metal value (although it may be a better value than non-fungible tokens or Dogecoin). Metal prices rise and fall due to mine closures, natural calamities such as severe weather impacting shipments, and so on. It is hard to even begin to explain its value as an inflation hedge, when as of February 2020, there had not been much of that in over thirty years.

Was I ever so wrong. I should have told them to go home, raid their college funds, and take whatever was in their parent's wallets and purses, and go to coin dealers and buy silver coins, any silver coins. The parents would have thanked me eventually.

And now inflation is back, and metals prices are high. Just how high it will go and how long it will last can be debated, but it is definitely here right now. It is interesting to see Mint silver dollar offerings command such demand. Is that hedge demand or simply because buyers like the concept and design?

(continued on page 6)

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- Appraise collections or individual pieces on an hourly basis
- Assist in the orderly disposition of holdings at current values

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OFFICIAL RED BOOK CONTRIBUTOR

Obituary for John Lednum Haddaway

by Bill and Lois Dickerson

John Lednum Haddaway died on March 31, 2019 at Talbot Hospice in Easton. He was 78. He was born on October 14, 1940 on Tilghman Island, the son of the late John Brister and Viola Lednum Haddaway. John was born and raised on Tilghman Island. He lived most of his life there. He married Norma Lednum Haddaway and they were married for 58 years. He is survived by his wife, Norma Haddaway, his sister, Janice Higgins, three nieces, two nephews and many great nieces and nephews. John was a very good friend and long-time business associate. A real gentleman and a man of impeccable an indisputable integrity. All the dealers knew that they could rely on John for answers to tough questions because his knowledge of our business was incredible, and he was always willing to share this knowledge. When the word TRUST came to mind you thought of John Haddaway. He would always give you the best deal possible. I always considered John as a mentor of mentors, and I learned much from him over the years. John will be sorely missed, and I know he will be part of my fond memories. The good news is that my dear friend is very much alive, and we will see him again sometime in the future.

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President's Message (continued)

Will the ANA August show in Illinois attract hedge buyers seeking to amass silver and gold, perhaps copper too? If anyone is chancing high travel expenses and going to Rosemont, please write about it in the next issue of the *Maryland Numismatist*.

Speaking of gold, the delayed MSNA raffle offers some nice gold pieces for the top three winners, and the fourth prize is silver and about our Maryland heritage: Fort McHenry. The odds of winning will probably be the best ever, as we don't know if we'll break even. However, since we merged the 2020 raffle with the 2021, the MSNA Board felt they couldn't justify delaying the raffle yet again. Should the November Whitman Expo go on as planned, raffle tickets will be available at the registration desk at $1 each for 6 for $5. You may have to wait until there's no line waiting to register, since we don't want to interfere with people attending the convention. You can also email the editor or mail a check (see inside cover for addresses).

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Archaeologists Find Rare, Nearly 380-Year-Old English Coin during Maryland Dig

Silver shilling, probably dropped by colonist, turns up in St. Mary's almost four centuries later

by Michael E. Ruane

https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2021/05/02/rare-coin-maryland-dig/

It was a silver shilling, bearing the likeness of the doomed King Charles I, and one day three centuries ago, someone lost it inside the Maryland colonial fort at St. Mary's. It was an elegant coin, showing the crowned king in profile with goatee and lace collar. It was probably missed by its owner, and probably searched for, in vain. Last week, archaeologists announced that, about 380 years after it was lost, it turned up during the historic dig that recently uncovered the outlines of the fort at the first permanent English settlement in Maryland.

The shilling had been struck in the Royal Mint in the Tower of London about 1633 or 1634, chief project archaeologist Travis Parno said Friday. And it may have been carried by one of the original 150 colonists who arrived at St. Mary's on two ships, the Ark and the Dove, in March 1634. The discovery is rare, Parno said, and further proof that the archaeologists have correctly pinpointed the fort's location. "It nailed our site date exactly," he said. The shilling has a mint mark — a tiny image of a castle portcullis — that dates it. "We don't find a lot of coinage," he said. "We don't have any shilling that matches this one exactly. To find one that's that early is a unique thing for us. … It was quite a revelation."

The coin's owner might have been a person of means: "To have currency with you, particularly a full silver shilling, it's not like someone carrying around a few copper farthings. … But it's really impossible to know." A shilling in those days was valuable, but not that valuable, Parno said. It might buy some pottery. Five shillings or so might buy a tool. "It's not like carrying around a gold doubloon," he said.

On March 22, Historic St. Mary's City announced that Parno and archaeological geophysicist Tim Horsley had found the remnants of

the post holes for the fort's palisade, which marked one of the earliest settlements in what would become the United States. The shilling may predate the later use of tobacco as currency in Maryland, which happened after the colony established tobacco as a cash crop, Parno said. And it is a connection between the frontier world of early Maryland and the political turbulence in 1600s England.

Charles was beheaded in 1649 after several years of civil war and a bloody power struggle with the English Parliament. The shilling was found in November by archaeologist crew chief Stephanie Stevens, Parno said. She texted him a picture of the coin, adding the expression "OMG!," he said. He texted back with an expletive and then, "Sorry. Wow." The discovery was kept under wraps for safekeeping while the coin was studied. It was unveiled Wednesday when Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan (R) visited the site.

The reverse side of the coin shows a coat of arms and the Latin motto "Christo Auspice Regno" — I Reign Under the Auspices of Christ. Also unveiled then was an old Catholic religious medal depicting five saints and a "tinkling cone," a small copper alloy decoration probably made by Europeans for trade with Native Americans. Those items were unearthed about two weeks ago. "We find stuff that gets lost, broken or thrown away," Parno said. "That's the job of the archaeologist. Sometimes it's the stuff that gets lost that we get really excited about."

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Local News

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, most clubs have cancelled their meetings. MSNA Treasurer and Editor Simcha Kuritzky arranged Zoom meetings for two clubs.

In February, the **Montgomery County Coin Club** held an open session where members showed and discussed what they consider to be the best and worst coins, however they chose to define it. Cleaning coins was the subject for their March meeting. The April meeting included a presentation by Len Augsburger on the Baltimore coin hoard discovered in 1934 based on his book *Treasure in the Cellar: A Tale of Gold in Depression-Era Baltimore* published in 2008. In May, John Frost, the President of the Barber Coin Collectors' Society gave an introduction to Barber Coinage which can be viewed at youtu.be/ObW6ZsMTn6M.

The **Washington Numismatic Society** showed videos from YouTube. In February, they showed Coin Week's video on the Syracuse decadrachm and a video on the origin and the history of the drachma denomination. In March, the videos covered collecting U.S. Gold coins and Coin Week's polling dealers at the 2014 Chicago International Coin Fair for their interesting ancient and world coins. April's video examined gold coinage from the electrum coinage of the Kingdom of Lydia, to the gold issues of the Byzantine Empire. PCGS's Grading 103 class on detecting counterfeit and altered U.S. coins was shown in May.

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Sheqel or Shekel?

by Simcha Kuritzky

When writing foreign words from languages with non-Roman alphabets, one is faced with the issue of whether to translate into an English word that means much the same thing, or just render the foreign word in Roman letters. This is an issue Israel faced since its beginning in 1948. The Anglo-Palestine Bank and Bank Leumi (National), issued notes with trilingual inscriptions where the denomination was לירה *lira* in Hebrew, جنه *juneh* (guinea) in Arabic, and pounds in English. For the 1954 series, the Bank of Israel wrote out the denomination only on the lowest value note, the 500 *pruta*, transliterating it in English and Arabic بروطة (*bruta*), while it used a script ℒ for the pound symbol on the higher denominations. Later issues gave the denomination only in Hebrew, assuming the Hebrew illiterate would get by using the large numerals.

That changed in 1982 when a new design format was introduced. This was near the height of Israel's inflation, so they didn't change the lower denominations, assuming they would be worthless in a couple years anyway. The 500 shekel note used the transliteration Sheqalim in Roman letters and شيقل Sheyqal in Arabic. Why a Q and not a K? The Hebrew word שקל is written with *quf*, and this letter (originally from the Phoenicians) became Q *koppa* in Greek and Q in Latin. The K is instead based on כ *kaf*. The only way we know this is supposed to be English is that the bank name is rendered Bank of Israel, and not Banq Yisrael, which would be the transliteration.

Things got a little more complicated in 1985 when1,000 *sheqalim* became 1 *sheqel ḥadash*. The Bank of Israel mixed English and transliteration on their notes using the denomination New Sheqalim. This has been very confusing to Anglophones, who simply aren't used to this use of the letter q. I can't count the number of times I've seen the incorrect *shequel* written by Americans. Finally in 2015 the Bank of Israel decided to drop transliteration and just translate the denomination into English. Banknotes and commemorative coins starting that year are now denominated in New Shekels (see photos bottom of page 11). This change has not yet been extended to circulating coins. The Bank of Israel has floated the idea of dropping "new" and going back to shekel much the way Britain did, introducing new pence in 1968 and renaming them pence in 1982. Maybe the Israelis are waiting for that change to update their circulating coins.

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PAN Show Results

The Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN) held their Spring coin show in mid-May at their usual location in Monroeville, just east of Pittsburgh. Like the Autumn show in October, dealer's tables were spaced apart, attendees were masked, and they checked temperatures on entry. However, since the exhibitors and PAN officers were now vaccinated, photos were taken unmasked. The dealers were back in the carpeted hall PAN usually rents (in May, they got the larger uncarpeted hall), but due to spacing, the dealers spread into the backroom normally reserved for exhibits and talks, and the backroom was double its normal size.

MSNA Secretary Bryce Doxzon's exhibit *A Medallic 'Tribute to Her Heroic Sons': The Pennsylvania State Memorial Medal* won second place in Exonumia. This exhibit also won third place back in the 2012 ANA World's Fair of Money in Regional U.S. Numismatics. Presenting the award is MSNA life member Tom Corey.

MSNA Editor and Treasurer Simcha Kuritzky's exhibit on polygon coins won third place in world coins and his exhibit on Dutch Israel gold fantasy coins won third place in Exonumia. The polygon exhibit had won best of show at the 2012 National Money Show, and gold fantasy exhibit won first place at the 2017 ANA World's Fair of Money in Modern Coins and Medals.

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What's Your Sign?

Part Forty- Eight: Anders Nyborg Danish Medals

by Simcha Kuritzky, NLG

Anders Nyborg is a famous Scandinavian sculptor who has designed many fine medals, including a zodiac series minted at the Royal Danish Mint in 1978. Like most of his medals, these are in very high relief. While many zodiac medals mention the associated birth stone, this set has an actual hemispherical stone mounted on the reverse (except for the pearl which is whole). This series was produced in 50mm 75 gram bronze (mintage 3500) and 50mm 87 gram sterling silver (mintage 1500). The entire set is housed in a huge display case that includes a central circle with the signature of the engraver Harald Salomon. More on that later.

Anders Nyborg was born in 1934 in Copenhagen, and was also a writer and publisher. He created a decade-long series of art medals commemorating Scandinavian culture. Harald Salomon was born in Oslo, Norway in 1900, but he got his degree from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts in 1922 and started work with the Danish Royal Mint in 1933.

The Aries medal shows a ram charging up and right on the obverse, and on the reverse the Latin name, sigil, red carnelian stone in a sunburst pattern, and to either side field thistles. The Taurus medal has a bull running left, green lathyrus stone, and chrysoprase. Two naked, floating boys grace the Gemini medal, with bluish opal and lilies of the valley.

A lobster walks left on the Cancer medal, with a small white pearl in a dish surrounded by canterbury bells. The Leo medal shows a sejant lion with close-cropped mane stands left with paws up but he faces behind and his tail forms an S. The back has green blood jasper surrounded by marigolds. A seated, naked woman holding a single wheat stalk on the Virgo medal, while the back has oat flowers and light blue lapis lazuli.

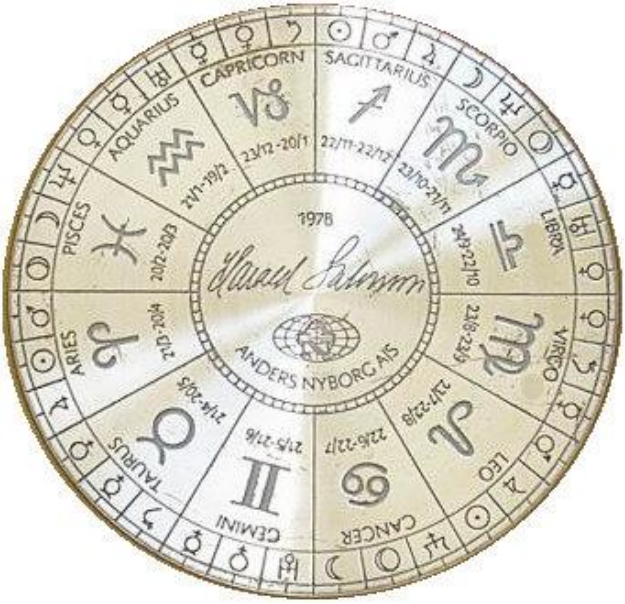
Zodiac Sign		Plant	Color Stone
♈	Aries	field thistle	red carnelian
♉	Taurus	chrysoprase	green lathyrus
♊	Gemini	lily of the valley	bluish opal
♋	Cancer	canterbury bell	white pearl
♌	Leo	marigold	green blood jasper
♍	Virgo	Wheat	cyan lapis lazuli
♎	Libra	Violet	green jade
♏	Scorpio	queen of the night	red coral
♐	Sagittarius	iris	black garnet
♑	Capricorn	holly	golden rock crystal
♒	Aquarius	orchid	purple amethyst
♓	Pisces	poppy	amber

A traditional display of floating balance scales graces the front of the Libra medal. The back has green jade surrounded by violets. The Scorpio medal shows a scorpion facing left, while on back is a red coral bead and queen of the night plants. A centaur gallops left but faces behind with a drawn bow on the Sagittarius medal, and on the reverse is a black garnet surrounded by iris.

A goat with impressive curved horns climbs rocks right but facing behind is shown on the Capricorn medal's obverse, while the reverse has a golden rock crystal surrounded by holly. Capricorn does rule over most of Yule and Christmas which is symbolized by holly. The Aquarius medal shows a naked man with short curly hair holding a bucket beneath a flowing water spout. The reverse has purple amethyst and orchids. Last are two fish swimming near the sea bottom on the Pisces medal with amber surrounded by poppy flowers. Although it may be just a coincidence, the Jewish holiday of Purim occurs mostly during Pisces and a traditional Purim treat are poppyseed cookies called *hamentaschen*.

The complete set comes with a display case with wooden base, tan felt covering, and high plastic lid. The medals are arrayed around the outside counter-clockwise. In the center is the metal circle shown on the next page. The circle is copper for the bronze set and white metal (maybe silver) for the silver set. The outer rim has 72 small boxes. A larger inner ring is divided into 36 boxes, each with a planetary sigil, described in the chart below. The largest ring has the sign's Latin name, large sigil, and dates (also in the chart) in European day.month format. The inner circle also has 72 small boxes. The very center has the date 1978, Harald Salomon's signature, a globe logo above Anders Nyborg A/S. For the planetary sigils, usually the first one (going counter-clockwise) is for the ruling planet, including the three new planets. The Pluto sigil looks like a gibbous moon.

Zodiac Sign		**Dates**	**Planets**		
♈	Aries	21.3–20.4	♂ Mars	☉ Sun	♃ Jupiter
♉	Taurus	21.4–20.5	♀ Venus	☿ Mercury	♄ Saturn
♊	Gemini	21.5–21.6	☿ Mercury	♀ Venus	♅ Uranus
♋	Cancer	22.6–22.7	☽ Moon	♇ Pluto	♆ Neptune
♌	Leo	23.7–22.8	☉ Sun	♃ Jupiter	♂ Mars
♍	Virgo	23.8–23.9	☿ Mercury	♄ Saturn	♀ Venus
♎	Libra	24.9–22.10	♀ Venus	♅ Uranus	☿ Mercury
♏	Scorpio	23.10–21.11	♇ Pluto	♆ Neptune	☽ Moon
♐	Sagittarius	22.11–22.12	♃ Jupiter	♂ Mars	☉ Sun
♑	Capricorn	23.12–20.1	♄ Saturn	♀ Venus	☿ Mercury
♒	Aquarius	21.1–19.2	♅ Uranus	☿ Mercury	♀ Venus
♓	Pisces	20.s–20.3	♆ Neptune	☽ Moon	♇ Pluto



If one looks at the three groupings of four, one will see that each column shifts to the left as one moves down to the next grouping. In other words, the central signs of Aries-Cancer are the sun, Mercury, Venus, and Pluto, which are also the first signs of the succeeding Leo-Scorpio, and the last signs for the remaining Sagittarius-Pisces grouping. The twelve signs in each grouping has ten unique signs from the Moon to Pluto, with Mercury and Venus repeated.

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Membership Application/Renewal

Date: _____ MSNA #:_____ (for renewal)

I hereby apply for membership/renewal in the Maryland State Numismatic Association, Inc., subject to its constitution & by-laws. (Please Print)

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Maryland Coin Show Dates

All shows have free admission. Only the Whitman show does not have free parking. All shows are subject to cancellation due to the pandemic; check before going.

19 June – Baltimore Stamp & Coin Show, Maryland State Fair Grounds, Mosner Miller Bldg, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD; 9-4.

14 Aug.–Baltimore Stamp & Coin Show, Maryland State Fair Grounds, Mosner Miller Building, 2200 York Road, Timonium, Md; 9-4.

15 Aug. – Catonsville Coin Club Show, Knights of Columbus Hall, 1010 Frederick Road (1 mile from I-695), Catonsville, MD; 10-4.

29 Aug. – Hunt Valley Coin and Currency Show, Holiday Inn, 9615 Deereco Road, Lutherville-Timonium, MD; 9-4.

12 Sept. – Annapolis Coin and Currency Show, Elks Lodge #622, 2 Pythian Drive, Edgewater, MD; 9-4.

1-3 Oct. – **CEO Coins, Currency & Treasures Ocean City Show,** Ocean City (Roland E. Powell) Convention Center, 4001 Ocean Highway & 40th Street, Ocean City, MD; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4.

16 Oct. – Baltimore Stamp & Coin Show, Maryland State Fair Grounds, Mosner Miller Building, 2200 York Road, Timonium, Md; 9-4.

24 Oct.– Hunt Valley Coin and Currency Show, Holiday Inn, 9615 Deereco Road, Lutherville-Timonium, MD; 9-4.

7 Nov. – Annapolis Coin and Currency Show, Elks Lodge #622, 2 Pythian Drive, Edgewater, MD; 9-4.

18-20 Nov. – Whitman Baltimore Summer Expo, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 West Pratt Street; Thu noon-6, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5.

27-28 Nov. – Frederick Coin and Currency Show, Elk Lodge #684, 289 Willowdale Drive, Frederick, MD; 9-4:30.

4 Dec. – Baltimore Stamp & Coin Show, Maryland State Fair Grounds, Mosner Miller Building, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD; 9-4.

19 Dec.– Hunt Valley Coin and Currency Show, Holiday Inn, 9615 Deereco Road, Lutherville-Timonium, MD; 9-4.

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